## Message Text

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12

**ACTION EA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /069 W

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R 230840Z DEC 75 FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7986 INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO AMEMBASSY ROME AMCONSUL HONG KONG USLO PEKING

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1. THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CHINA NEWS OF DECEMBER 21 WAS THE ONLY LOCAL NEWSPAPER THAT CARRIED A CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY (CNA) DISPATCH FROM ROME REPORTING AN INTERVIEW WITH PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO BY ITALIAN REPORTER CORRADO PIZZINELLI, IDENTIFIED AS DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT FOR LA NAZIONE OF FLORENCE AND IL RESTO DEL CARLINO OF BOLOGNA. IN THE INTERVIEW, WHICH REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE DURING PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO THE PRC, THE PREMIER, ACCORDING TO THE CNA ARTICLE, MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: A) THE GROC'S POLICY OF OPPOSING US/PRC CONTACTS WOULD NEVER CHANGE: B) IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE PACIFIC AREA, IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE U.S. TO MAINTAIN ITS FRIENDSHIP WITH THE ROC; C) PEOPLE ON TAIWAN HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR AND WILL NOT BE DISCOURAGED BY TEMPORARY SETBACKS; AND D) THE U.S. AND THE PRC ARE TOO DIFFERENT TO DEVELOP A LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP. REPORTEDLY, AT ONE POINT IN THE INTERVIEW THE PREMIER RECALLED THAT PRESIDENT CHIANG KAI-SHEK HAD ONLY 500 SOLDIERS UNDER HIS COMMAND WHEN HE SET OUT TO UNIFY CHINA, WHICH SHOWED THAT "NUMBERS ALONE DO NOT COUNT."

2. COMMENT: BASED ON THE CNA ACCOUNT OF THE INTERVIEW--LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH IS ONE OF THE FEW GIVEN BY THE PREMIER TO THE PRESS

IN RECENT MONTSTHE PREMIER'S STATEMENTS WOULD APPEAR TO
BE NOTHING MORE THAN A REITERATION OF LONG-STANDING GROC
POSITIONS.
POPPLE

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## Message Attributes

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